

Barnett, Cindy

From: Henderson, Lana
Sent: May 17, 2017 08:20 AM
To: Desmarais, Carl; Bush, Brett
Cc: Chaput, Allison; Byrne, Patrick
Subject: FW: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017
Attachments: Qs and As Minister's meeting with Alex Neve.docx
Importance: High

FYI – final version.

Lana Henderson

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Agence des services frontaliers du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
Lana.Henderson@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca / Tél: 613-952-7203 / ATS: 866-335-3237

From: Blanchard, NathalieX
Sent: May 16, 2017 3:15 PM
To: Henderson, Lana <Lana.Henderson@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Byrne, Patrick <Patrick.Byrne@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: Vigliotti, Maria <Maria.Vigliotti@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Mousseau, Pauline <pauline.mousseau@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017
Importance: High

For your file

Nathalie Blanchard

Chef de Cabinet du VP, direction générale des programmes
Agence des services frontaliers du Canada
Nathaliex.Blanchard@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca /tél.: 613-954-7527

Chief of staff for VP, Programs Branch
Canada Border Services Agency
Nathaliex.Blanchard@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca / Tel: 613-954-7527

From: Slowey, Charles
Sent: May 16, 2017 3:08 PM
To: Blanchard, NathalieX
Subject: FW: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017
Importance: High

Approved with changes, thanks

From: Blanchard, NathalieX
Sent: May 16, 2017 3:01 PM
To: Slowey, Charles <Charles.Slowey@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017
Importance: High

As requested

Nathalie Blanchard

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Canada Border Services Agency
Nathaliex.Blanchard@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca / Tel: 613-954-7527

From: Henderson, Lana
Sent: May 16, 2017 2:21 PM
To: Mousseau, Pauline
Cc: CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF; Lutfallah, Jennifer; Soper, Lesley L; Byrne, Patrick; Henderson, Lana
Subject: RE: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017

Hi Pauline,

Please find attached DG approved Q&As.

Document uploaded to CCM 1640.

Thanks,
Lana

Lana Henderson

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Lana.Henderson@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca / Tél: 613-952-7203 / ATS: 866-335-3237

From: Mousseau, Pauline
Sent: May 16, 2017 10:00 AM
To: Henderson, Lana <Lana.Henderson@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Byrne, Patrick <Patrick.Byrne@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF <CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017

See attachments – input required for 3 and 4

BF: 11AM

From: Mousseau, Pauline
Sent: May 15, 2017 12:18 PM
To: Henderson, Lana <Lana.Henderson@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Byrne, Patrick <Patrick.Byrne@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF <CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: RE: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017

FYI - CCM is 17-01640.

From: Mousseau, Pauline
Sent: May 15, 2017 12:14 PM
To: Henderson, Lana <Lana.Henderson@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Byrne, Patrick <Patrick.Byrne@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF <CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017
Importance: High

Programs will have the lead on this – please prepare / coordinate the agency input.

BF: May 16th 9am

From: Farrier, Raymond On Behalf Of CBSA-ASFC_ECU-UCE
Sent: May 15, 2017 12:10 PM
To: Blanchard, NathalieX <NathalieX.Blanchard@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: Graham, Jason <Jason.Graham@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Cyr-Carriere, Alexandra <Alexandra.Cyr-Carriere@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF <CBSA-ASFC-DIST-HQ_PRG_VPO_AVPO_STAFF@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Gratton, Veronique <Veronique.Gratton@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Braham, Stephen <Stephen.Braham@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Ibrahim, Nesreen <Nesreen.Ibrahim@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Charron, Renée <Renee.Charron@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Mahé, Tammy <Tammy.Mahe@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Keeler, Carolyn <Carolyn.Keeler@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; CBSA-ASFC_ECU-UCE <EBI-BIH@CBSA-ASFC.GC.CA>; Boyd, Colin <Colin.Boyd@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Bindner, Melissa <Melissa.Bindner@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Cléroux, Julie <Julie.Cleroux@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Mackenzie, Joey <Joey.Mackenzie@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: FW: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017
Importance: High

Nathalie,

FYA - I assume CBSA will have possible input for this meeting. Can you lead the Agency input? The turnaround is tight on this.

I will create a ccm shortly and get back to you on timeline.

Ray

From: Secretariat Services / Services de secrétariat (PS/SP) [<mailto:ps.secretariatsservices-servicesdesecretariat.sp@canada.ca>]
Sent: May 15, 2017 9:17 AM
To: PS.F Secretariat Services Tasking / Tâches Services de secrétariat F.SP <PS.SSTaskingPS-SPTachesSS.SP@ps-sp.gc.ca>;

PS.F Secretariat Services Tasking Agencies / Agences Tâches Services de secrétariat F.SP <PS.SSTaskingAgencies-AgencesTacheSS.SP@canada.ca>

Cc: PS.F Secretariat Services Tasking CC / CC Tâches Services de secrétariat F.SP <PS.SSTaskingCC-CCTacheSS.SP@ps-sp.gc.ca>; Secretariat Services / Services de secrétariat (PS/SP) <ps.secretariatsservices-servicesdesecretariat.sp@canada.ca>

Subject: URGENT REQUEST FOR ACTION (due May 17 @ NOON) - PS-016534- The Minister will meet with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada, on May 19, 2017

Importance: High

Good morning,

On Friday, May 19, 2017, the Minister will be meeting with Alex Neve, Secretary General of Amnesty International Canada to discuss:

1. National security/human rights (see attached submission) – Mr. Neve has indicated that this will be the main topic
2. Redress for Omar Khadr
3. Canada/US Safe Third Country Agreement, in line with attached letters Ongoing process around ratification of the Optional Protocol to the Convention against Torture
4. Detention issues: immigration detention (particularly children) and solitary confinement

Mr. Neve will be accompanied by Ms. Beatrice Vaugrante, Director General, Amnistie internationale Canada francophone and Ms. Hilary Homes, Campaigner for Security and Human Rights.

Departmental representation (one) is welcome.

CCM Number:

- PS-016534

DATE:

- Friday, May 19, 2017 from 1:00 p.m. to 2:00 p.m.

LOCATION:

- Room 515-S, Centre Block

LEAD:

- NCSB (in consultation with other branches and agencies, as required)
If your organization wishes to provide material for this meeting, please contact the Lead directly.

REQUESTED ENGLISH MATERIALS:

- Memo to the Minister (include background information)
- Biographies (use attached template)
- Suggested talking points (use attached template)

DUE TO SECRETARIAT SERVICES:

- **By NOON on Wednesday, May 17, 2017**

Should you have any questions, please feel free to contact the Secretariat.

Thank you,

Kim MacDonald

Briefing Officer / Agente d'information

Secretariat Services / Services du secrétariat

Public Safety Canada / Sécurité publique Canada

Direct line/ Ligne directe: 613-949-2758

General line/ Ligne générale: 613-949-6607

E-mail / Courriel: kim.macdonald2@canada.ca



Immigration, Refugees
and Citizenship Canada

Immigration, Réfugiés
et Citoyenneté Canada



Canada Border
Services Agency

Agence des services
frontaliers du Canada

Asylum Claimants Influx Interdepartmental Response Planning

**Update to the Minister of Public
Safety**

For Discussion

April 24, 2017

Advice to the Minister

Canada



PURPOSE

- To provide an overview of interdepartmental contingency planning on the irregular migration environment at the land borders.

Planning principles:

- Ensure border integrity is maintained
- Treat claimants respectfully
- Ensure legal obligations are being met
- Minimize economic impact on Canada's industry and tourism during peak travel season
- Remain agile to respond to unforeseen circumstances
- Maximize interdepartmental / bi-national / whole-of-government effort
- Deliver short-term response while positioning for a long term solution



OPERATIONAL RESPONSE – STRATEGIC FRAMEWORK

Managing the current escalation

VOLUMES GROWING

- Ongoing and incremental growth in asylum claimants at, and between, land ports of entry
- A combination facilitated arrival from external to US and arrival following extended stay in US

Reacting to un-forecasted events

HUMANITARIAN EFFORT

- A humanitarian event in the asylum seeker population (e.g. death)

SECURITY OR HEALTH EVENT

- A security event in Canada or the US
- A significant health event/disease outbreak among asylum seekers with potential impact on the work force and community at large

CAPACITY EXCEEDED

- Following a dramatic change in US immigration enforcement, large volumes of asylum seekers arrive in large groups on an ongoing basis

Transforming to a new baseline

PERSISTENT INCREASE

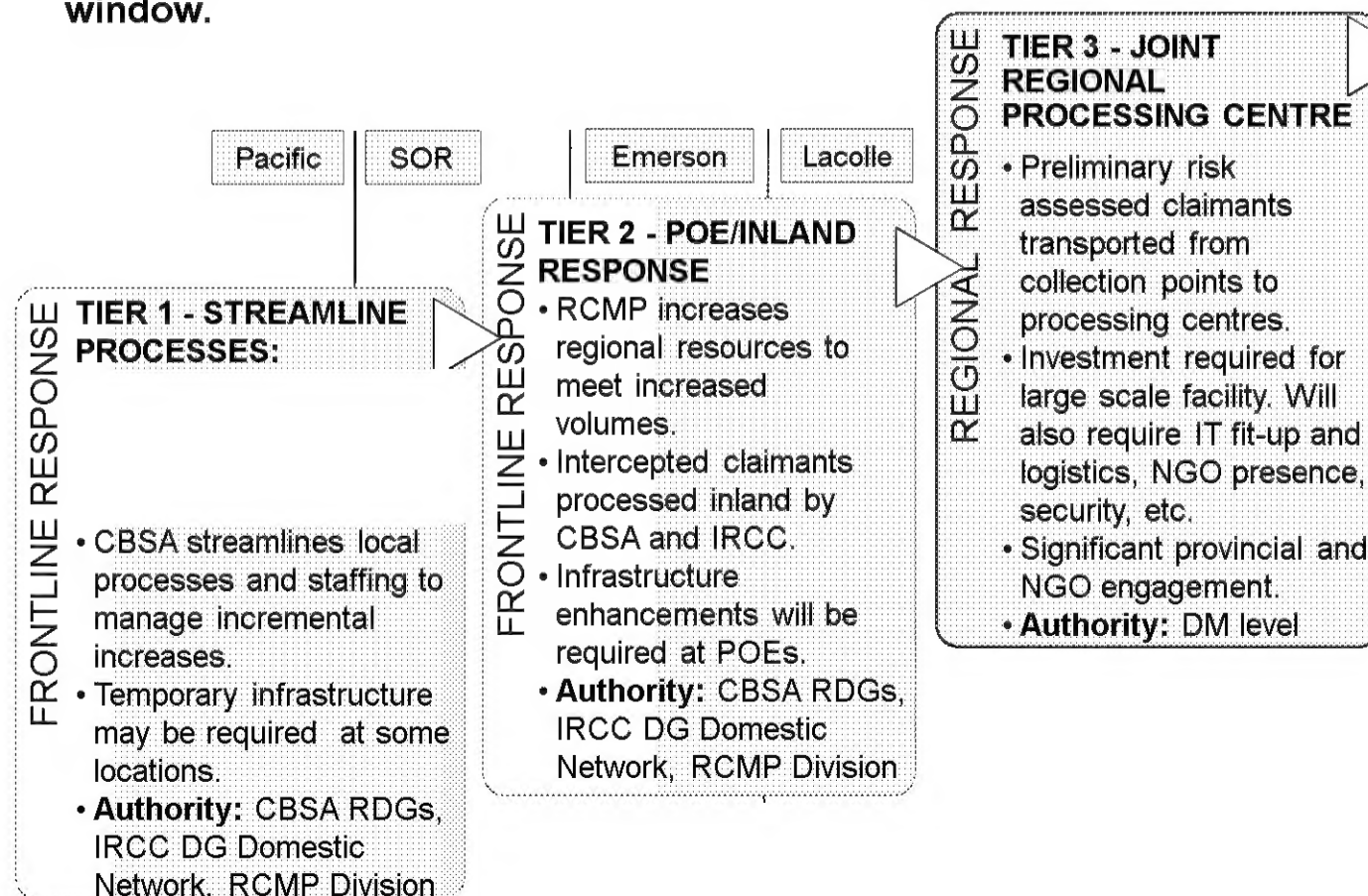
- persistent and sustained large volume of arrival of claimants from or through the US



PROPOSED OPERATIONAL RESPONSE PLAN

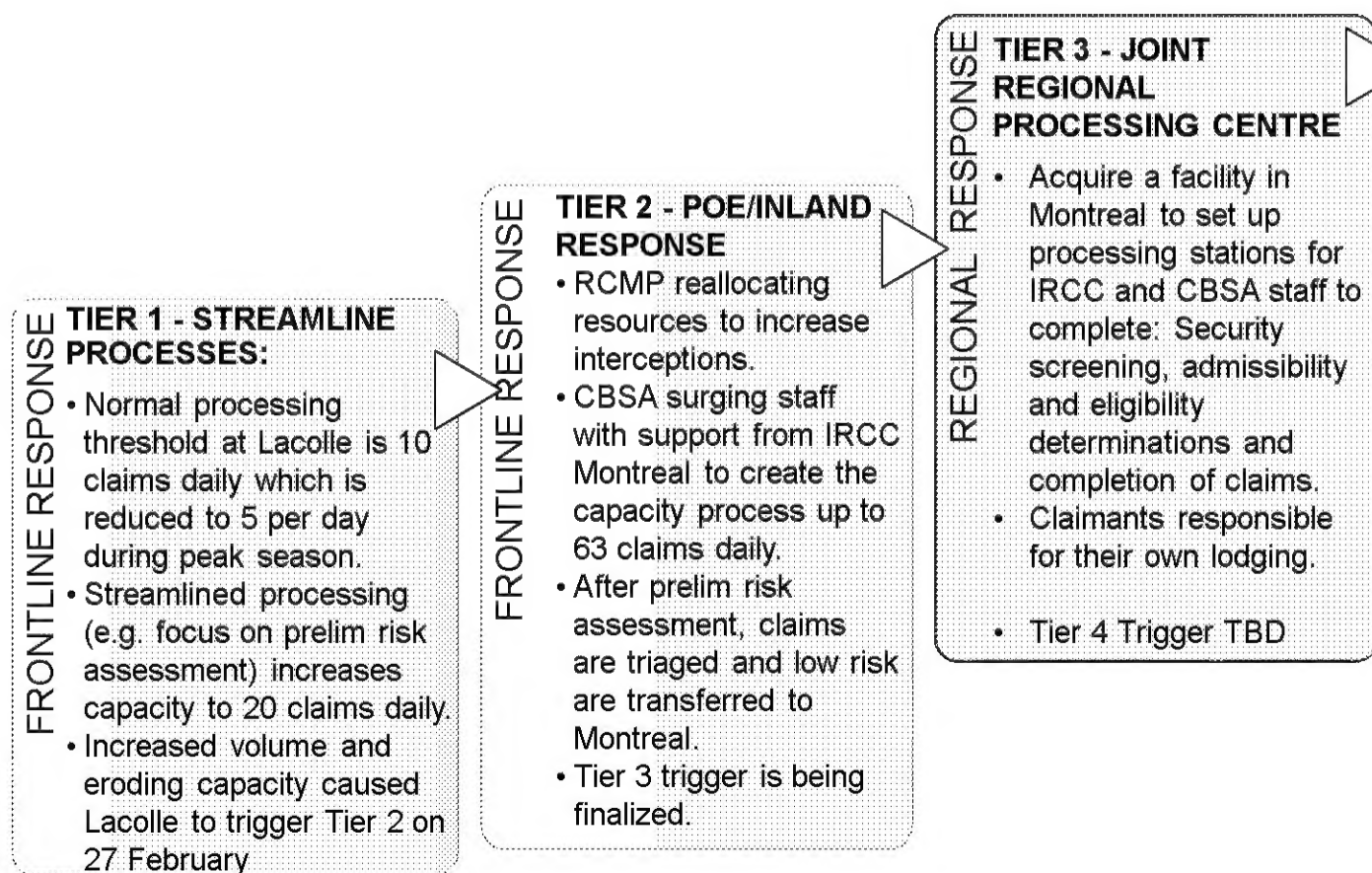
The tiered approach that provides:

- Agility to escalate and de-escalate at local, regional and national levels in response to changing conditions;
- Capacity to meet the 3 day claim processing eligibility window.





TIERS IN ACTION – LACOLLE SCENARIO EXAMPLE





ENGAGEMENT STRATEGY

- **International Engagement**
 - Departments and Agencies are actively leveraging fora to respond to this influx of claimants.
 - Government of Canada international assets (CBSA, RCMP and IRCC) are engaging authorities in source countries to address visa issuance issues.
- **Engaging Provinces and Territories**
 - IRCC has undertaken lead role in providing provincial senior officials with a regular updates on the influx of irregular arrivals.
 - Active engagement of Manitoba provincial authorities as well as the representatives from the City of Emerson.
 - Provinces/territorial authorities will become involved in planning should the situation escalated.
- **Engaging Nongovernmental Organizations**
 - UNHCR has undertaken a crucial and integral role in this movement by coordinating NGO efforts at the local level
 - UNHCR has visited many of the key locations to ascertain the underlying reasons for this movement through discussions with claimants and also to monitor conditions.
 - Additional roles that the UNHCR and other NGOs may fulfill will be assessed.



POLICY/PROGRAM REFINEMENTS IN RESPONSE TO CONTINGENCY PLANNING

OPERATIONAL POLICY REFINEMENTS:

- Various operational policy refinements have been undertaken to manage this population including:
 - Ineligibility criteria (Tier 1 and above)
 - Sharing of information with US counterparts (All tiers)
 - Arrest authorities (Tier 1 and above)

EXISTING AUTHORITIES:

- Intervention Strategy with IRCC (Tier 1 and above)
- Temporary expansion of port of entry footprint (Tier 3 and above)
-

LONGER TERM OPTIONS (LEGISLATIVE/REGULATORY AMENDMENTS REQUIRED):

- Long term policy changes,



COMMUNICATIONS STRATEGY

OBJECTIVES:

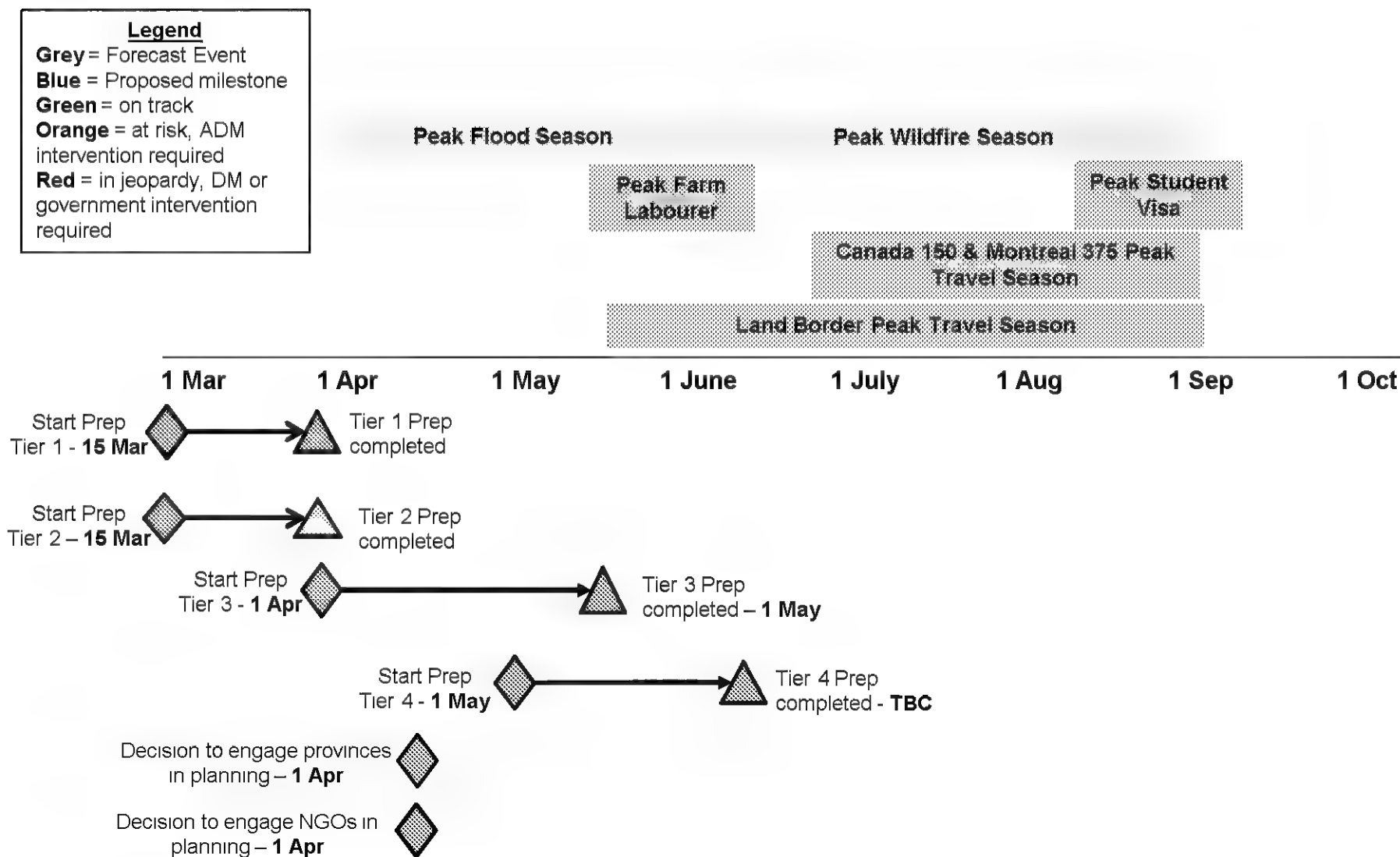
- Ensure transparency by proactively communicating to Canadians regarding the influx of migrants as well as the Government's response
- Foster assurance among Canadians that the safety and security of our country and population continues is of highest importance and, therefore, all security and health checks continue to be completed for this population
- Reassure Canadians that we are processing asylum seekers as quickly as possible and that these individuals are being treated fairly and humanely

APPROACH:

- Communications plans will be proactive and positive in tone and tailored to each of the tiers of the Operational Response Plan
 - Posting of updated claimant arrival statistics monthly on IRCC website
- Communications protocols continuing to be developed and activated for specific scenarios;
- Detect and correct media stories and any significant social media chatter quickly
- Ongoing review of opinion research findings to ascertain any shifts in Canadians' views



PROPOSED OPERATIONAL RESPONSE TIMELINES

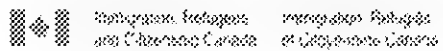


Advice to the Minister



NEXT STEPS

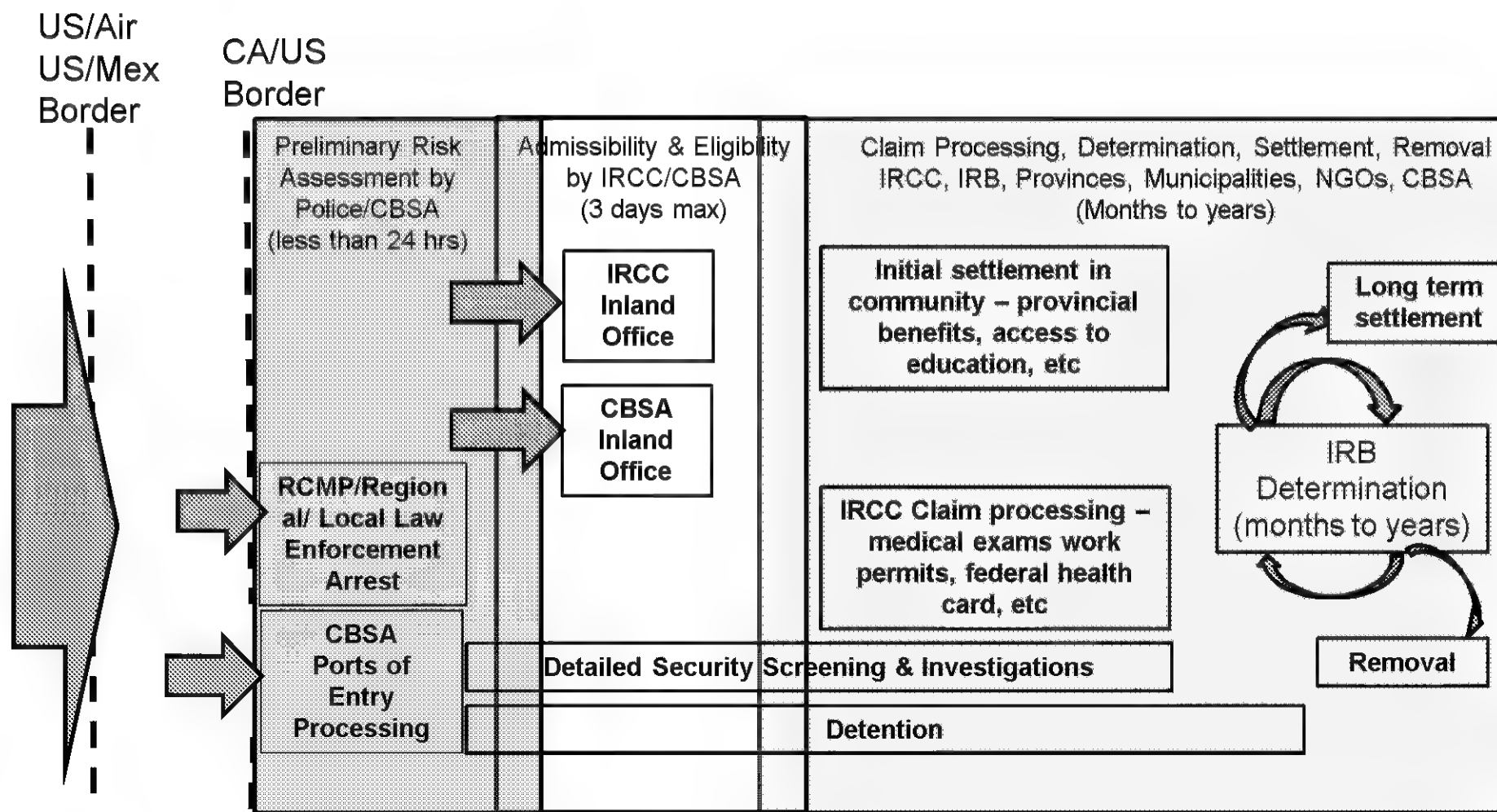
- With respect to contingency planning:
 - Finalize threshold milestones, resourcing model and triggers for each tier
 - Ascertain resource requirements and, if possible,
 - Analyse and respond to downstream operational impacts on managing refugee influx (e.g. Humanitarian support, impact on IRB, removals, detentions, provincial support, etc.)
- With respect to policy development:
 - Identify additional policy/program refinements that will strengthen near term operational response
 - Continue to work with IRCC to develop policy and/or regulatory amendments that would mitigate pressure



APPENDICES

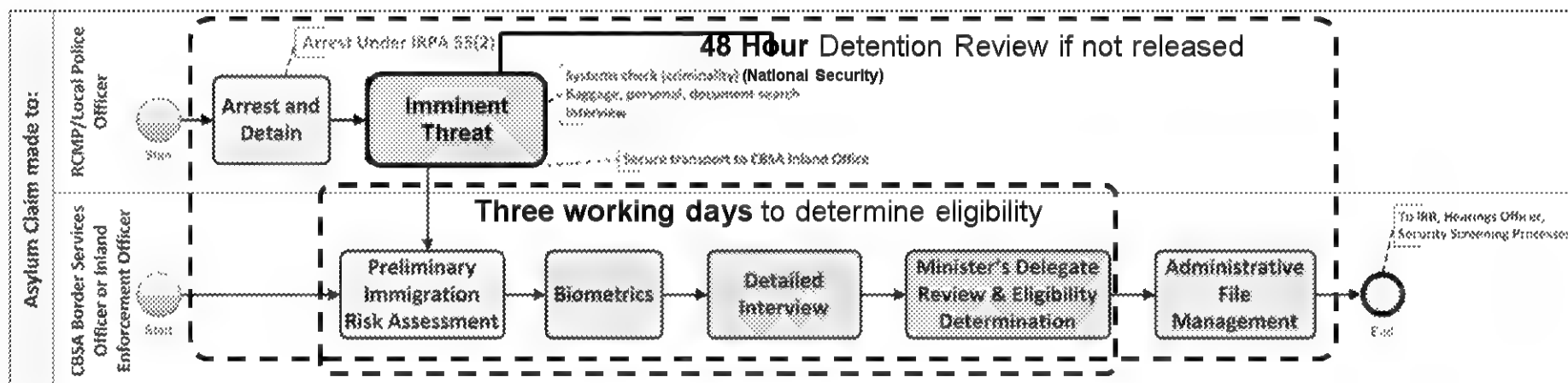


THE COMPLEX PATH FROM CLAIMANT TO REFUGEE



ASYLUM CLAIMANT PROCESSING

What must be done, and by when:



- **48 hour detention review** is required if claimant is not released; starting upon initial arrest by either RCMP or CBSA officer.
- Once a claim is made to a delegated officer (CBSA or IRCC), the officer has **three working days to determine eligibility** or the claim is automatically referred (eligible) to the Immigration and Refugee Board (clock does not start with arrest by RCMP as they are not delegated to receive claims).

Examination of Eligibility to Refer Claim

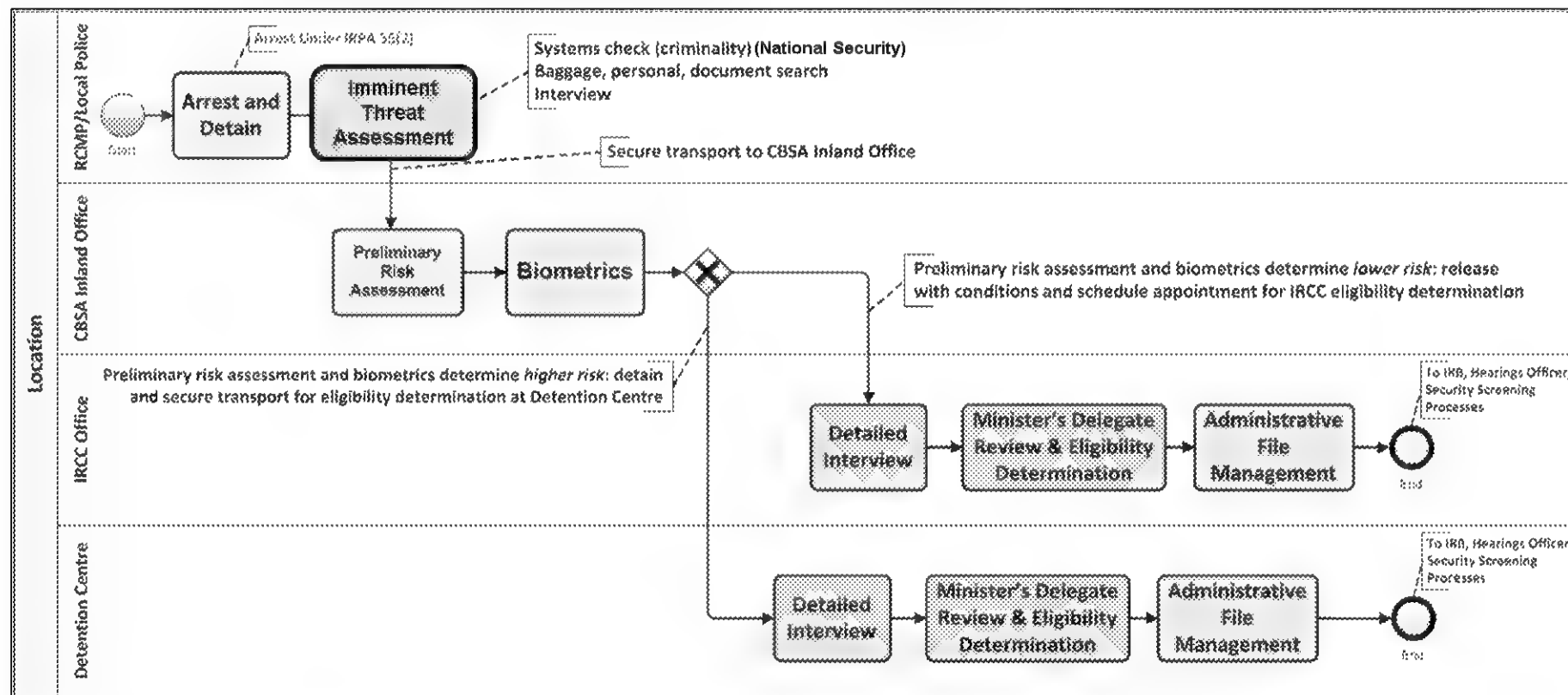
A100 (1) An officer shall, within three working days after receipt of a claim referred to in subsection 99(3), determine whether the claim is eligible to be referred to the Refugee Protection Division and, if it is eligible, shall refer the claim in accordance with the rules of the Board

Review of detention

A57 (1) Within 48 hours after a permanent resident or a foreign national is taken into detention, or without delay afterward, the Immigration Division must review the reasons for the continued detention



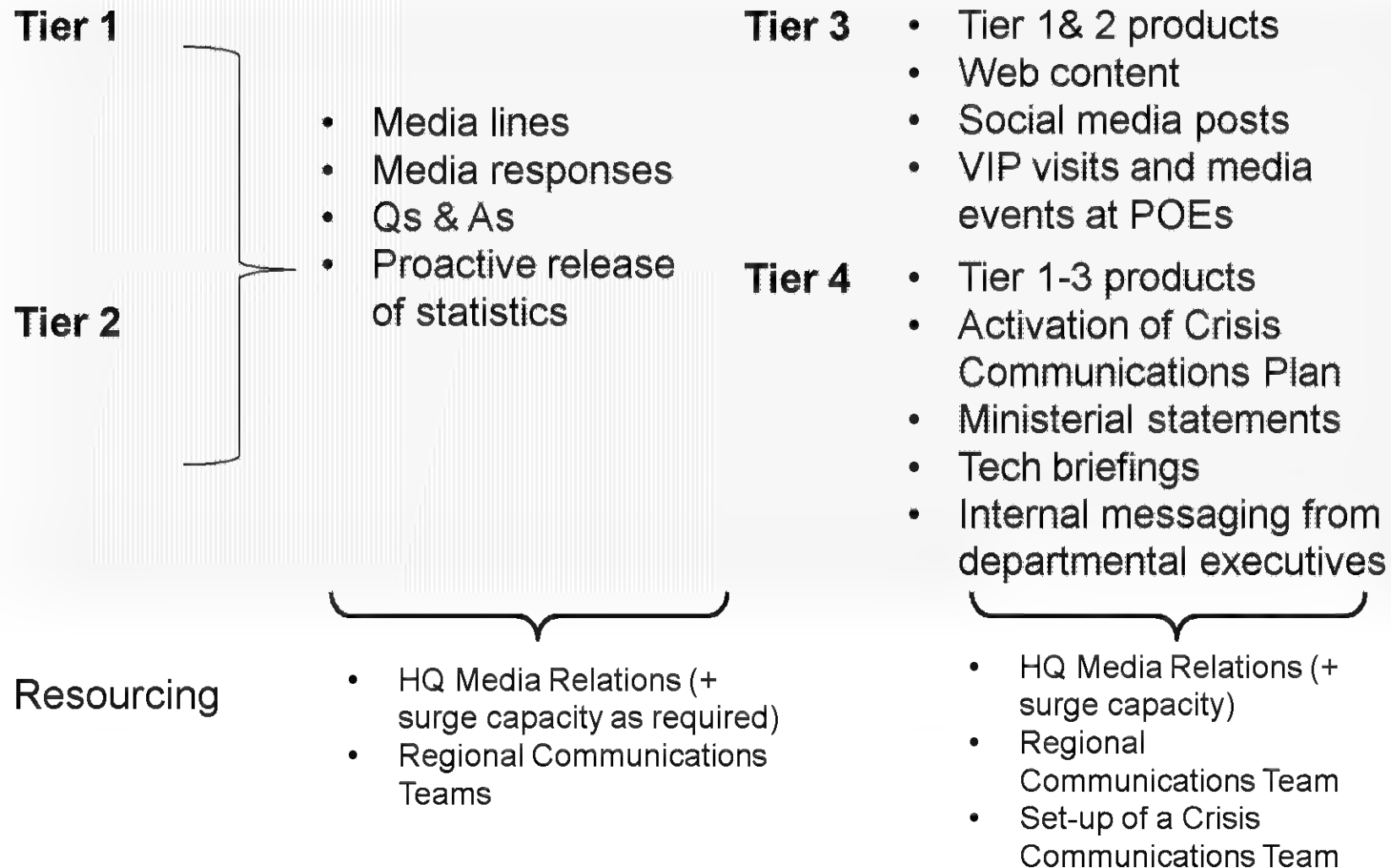
ALLEVIATING POE PRESSURE BY INCREASING REFERRAL OF POE AND BETWEEN THE PORT CLAIMS INLAND



- RCMP arrest and detain all between POE arrivals/claims to conduct national security risk assessment for imminent threat.
- Claimants transported to CBSA Inland Office and Detention Centre via secure transport.
- Travel pressures impacting legislated timeline requirements include travel to RCMP detachment, travel to CBSA office, and travel to detention centre.
- Model currently applied in Pacific Highway District.

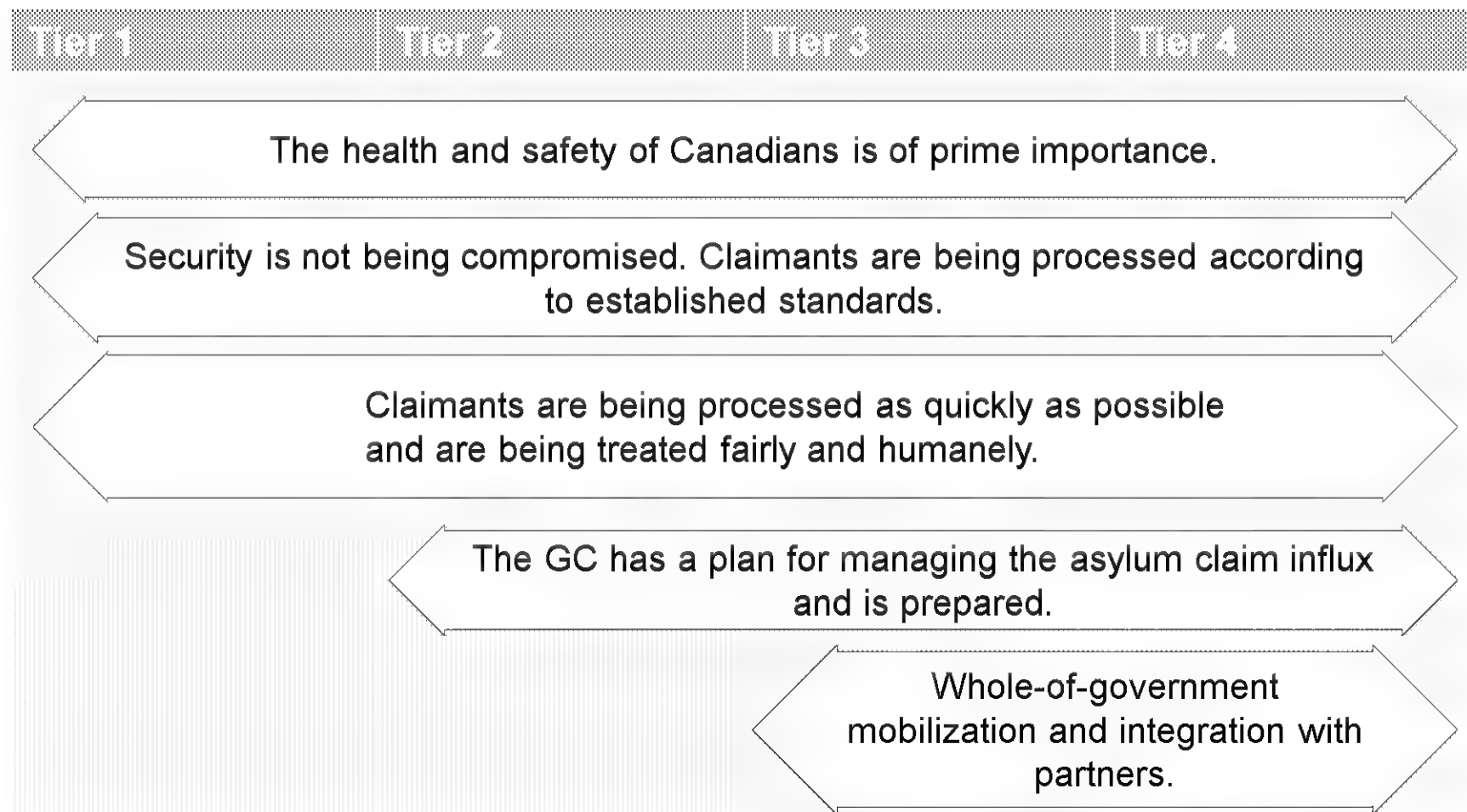


TIER – BASED COMMUNICATIONS APPROACH





TIER-BASED MESSAGING



Intelligence Snapshot - Between the Ports

Enforcement and Intelligence Operations Directorate



Canada Border
Services Agency

Agence des services
frontalières du Canada

Protected A



Intelligence Trends

Pacific Trends:

Pacific numbers are down with only one Turkish national encountered.

Prairies Trends:

Numbers were once again slightly down this week with 23 adults and one accompanying child. Nationality make up of Somali and Djiboutian was again fairly traditional to what has been seen in the past couple years.

Southern Ontario Trends:

No between the ports incursions were encountered this week. SOR continues to monitor and liaise with partners on the issue, including core partners at the GL-MSOC.
(No update)

Greater Toronto Area Trends:

In collaboration with IRCC Etobicoke, analysis continues on refugee claims made inland who entered between the ports at various points in Canada. Analysis is ongoing.

Northern Ontario Trends:

No between the ports incursions were encountered this week. NOR continue to monitor and liaise with partners on the issue. NOR officers continue to support increased processing at the Lacolle POE. (No update)

Quebec Trends:

Quebec continued to encounter similar nationalities, including those from Haiti, Turkey and Yemen crossing between the ports, though in slightly lower numbers. This week Quebec region highlighted that they have also been encountering a steady flow of Colombian and Honduran nationals in the Estrie region.

Atlantic Trends:

No between the ports incursions were encountered this week. Atlantic continues to monitor and liaise with partners on the issue and will be conducting a probe on between the ports of New Brunswick and Maine.
(No update)

Overall Trends

All regions indicate that flow numbers are down

Facilitation

Canada-USA Border:

Transnational: (No update)

Intelligence Opportunities & Challenges

On the Horizon

Irregular migration numbers this week are down, but recently received information appears to indicate that the flow is highly sensitive to warmer weather, political messaging, and enforcement activities south of the border

Updated: 28 April 2017

Version 3.0

For Internal Use Only

Protected A

US-Canada Dashboard – Asylum Claims and Interceptions

April 24, 2017

Monitoring of Asylum Claims – Preliminary Data

Data as of April 24, 2017

Note to Audience

Disclaimers

- This dashboard is based solely on preliminary claims data which will vary from the verified claimant data posted on Open Portal. As the data is preliminary, it is subject to change and may not match IRCC official counts. Claims data varies from claimant data as claimant data eliminates the duplication of multiple attempts of an asylum seeker to enter the country as they are only eligible to claim asylum in Canada once. Claims data may include these multiple attempts to claim asylum.
- For requests concerning this dashboard or any asylum claims data, please contact the Operations Planning and Performance Branch's Refugee Mailbox (IRCC.OPPRefugeeStats-StatsRefugiesPRO.IRCC@ci.gc.ca)
- Please consult Open Portal (<http://open.canada.ca/en/open-data>) for verified claimants data. For any asylum claimant requests concerning Open Portal data or otherwise, please contact the Research and Evaluation Branch (Statistics@ci.gc.ca).
- Data is intended for **internal use** within IRCC, CBSA and RCMP only and has not yet been released to the public. For approval to release this report externally, please contact the Data Protocol Unit (DPU) at IRCC.DPU-UPD.IRCC@ci.gc.ca.
- Data Source: Data is being pulled from GCMS by IRCC using the Enterprise Data Warehouse (EDW).

Purpose

- This dashboard monitors the weekly asylum claims intake by both CBSA and IRCC as well as RCMP interceptions. It focuses on asylum claims beings made by persons arriving via the US. It is primarily used for policy analysis and to facilitate informed decision making by senior management.

For Internal Use Only

Monitoring of Asylum Claims – Preliminary Data

Data as of April 24, 2017

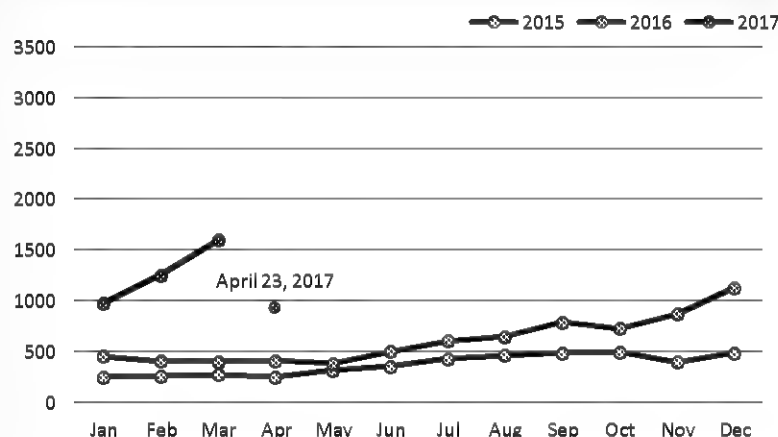
Asylum Snapshot – Asylum Claims

Analysis

- Land border and inland claims include persons who cross into Canada from the US without passing through a port of entry, as well as persons intercepted at the border.
- From January 1 to April 23, 2017 there were 4,527 asylum claims made at land border offices, compared to 1,549 over the same period last year.
- There were 5,760 asylum claims made at inland offices compared to 3,922 in 2016. Of the inland claims this year, 312 were from persons who reported the US* as their last country of residence.

- Any asylum claim entered in GCMS where the officer made an eligibility decision becomes available for reporting the next day, provided there is no system issue. However, under the IRPA, officers have three working days to make an eligibility decision, after which the claim is deemed referred to the Immigration and Refugee Board.
- As such, asylum intake data is considered to be "stable" only after 5 days following the claim.

Asylum Claim Intake (Land Border and Inland (US)*)
Claims from Foreign Nationals Previously Residing in the US

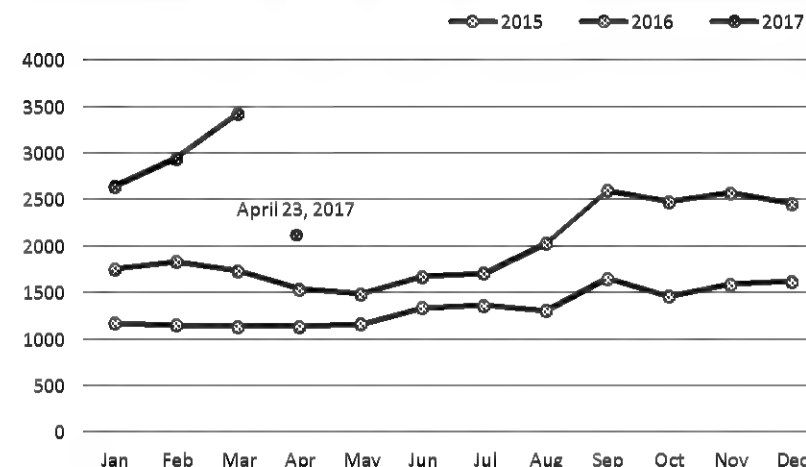


Asylum Claim Intake by Inland (US)* and Land Border

Location	From Jan. 1 to April 23, 2017		Total
	CBSA	IRCC	
Inland (US)*	76	236	312
Land Border (All)	4,527		4,527
Grand Total			4,839

*Inland (US): Only captures those who reported the US as their last country of residence, as such, we believe this number is significantly under reported.

All Asylum Claim Intake (Inland, Land Border and Airport)



Asylum Claim Intake by Inland, Land Border and Airport

Location	From Jan. 1 to April 23, 2017		Total
	CBSA	IRCC	
Inland	587	4,861	5,448
Inland(US)*	76	236	312
Land Border	4,527		4,527
Airport	905		905
Airport (US)*	22		22
Grand Total			11,214

Monitoring of Asylum Claims – Preliminary Data

Data as of April 24, 2017

Asylum Snapshot – Citizenship and Demographics

Analysis

- From January 1 to April 23, 2017, Haitian was the top citizenship for claims at the land border with 469 claims, Nigerian was the top citizenship at the inland Offices with 557 claims, and Mexican was top citizenship at the airports with 161 claims.
- For the same period last year, Haitian claims at the land border ranked 16th with 37 claims; Nigerian claims inland ranked 2nd with 305 claims; and, Mexican claims at airports ranked 22nd with 7 claims.

Top 10 Citizenships for Asylum Claims at Land Borders

Citizenship	2017-01-01 to 2017-04-23	
	Rank	#
Haiti	1	469
Burundi	2	304
Colombia	3	260
United States of America	4	256
Eritrea	5	251
Syria	6	222
Sudan	7	219
Turkey	8	218
El Salvador	9	212
Nigeria	10	199
Other	N/A	1,917
Total	N/A	4,527

Top 10 Citizenships for Asylum Claims at Inland Offices

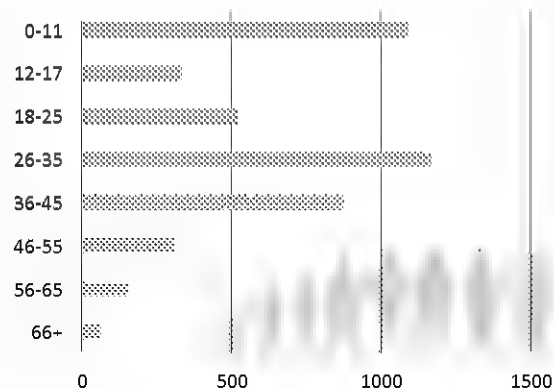
Citizenship	2017-01-01 to 2017-04-24	
	Rank	#
Nigeria	1	557
Turkey	2	395
Pakistan	3	316
China	4	309
Somalia	5	276
India	6	201
Venezuela	7	167
Iraq	8	159
Djibouti, Republic of	9	155
Syria	10	136
Other	N/A	3,089
Total	N/A	5,760

Top 10 Citizenships for Asylum Claims at Airports

Citizenship	2017-01-01 to 2017-04-23	
	Rank	#
Mexico	1	161
Slovak Republic	2	83
Hungary	3	79
Turkey	4	65
Czech Republic	5	60
India	6	45
Nigeria	7	36
China, People's Republic of	8	34
Bahama Islands, The	9	25
Albania	10	23
Other	N/A	316
Total	N/A	927

Profile of Claims at Land Borders (since January 1, 2017)

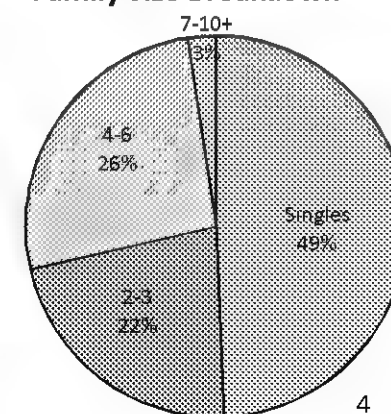
Age Breakdown



Gender Distribution



Family Size Breakdown



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Monitoring of Asylum Claims – Preliminary Data

Data as of April 24, 2017

Interceptions – US - Canada Land Borders

Analysis

- Persons who cross into Canada from the US without passing through a land port of entry (POE) effectively evade the Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA). If no other section of the Immigration and Refugee Protection Act under s.101(1) is applicable to the refugee claimant, they are eligible to make an asylum claim in Canada (the STCA applies at land POEs and airports¹ but not inland).
- From 2015 to 2016, RCMP in Quebec have seen a 346% increase in interceptions. In 2016, there were 1,367 interceptions, where 600 of them occurred between November and December 2016.
- In 2017, the RCMP has reported that over 95% of the Quebec interceptions are occurring at Chemin Roxham (4.5 km from Lacolle Border).
- 25% of total border and inland claims between January 1 and April 23, 2017 effectively evaded the STCA; however, were intercepted by the RCMP.

RCMP Asylum* Seeker Interceptions Between Canada - US borders**

Division	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017 {January}	2017 {February}	2017 {March}	2017 {April 1 – April 23}	2017 Total
C {Quebec}	653	416	389	306	1,367	245	432	672	496	1,845
O {Ontario}						0	0	0	0	0
J {New Brunswick}	1	3	1		9	0	0	1	0	1
D {Manitoba}					445	19	142	184	93	438
F {Saskatchewan}					20	5	0	2	7	14
K {Alberta}					1	0	0	1	0	1
E {British Columbia}					231	46	84	73	27	230
Total	654	419	390	306	2,073	315	658	933	623	2,529

RCMP Asylum* Seeker Interceptions Between Canada - US borders** Intake by Month



* Source is RCMP. There is currently no systems capability to identify asylum claimants in GCMS by whether they were intercepted by the RCMP; a interim fix has been developed and is being implemented.

**Data has not been provided for empty fields.

*** Results for 2017 includes April 1-23, 2017

Note: Due to an RCMP data error in British Columbia, the previous count for January 2017 had included numbers for previous months.

¹The STCA only applies at airports if a person seeking refugee protection in Canada who has been determined not to be a refugee by the United States, has been ordered deported from the United States and is in transit through Canada for removal from the United States.

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Monitoring of Asylum Claims – Preliminary Data

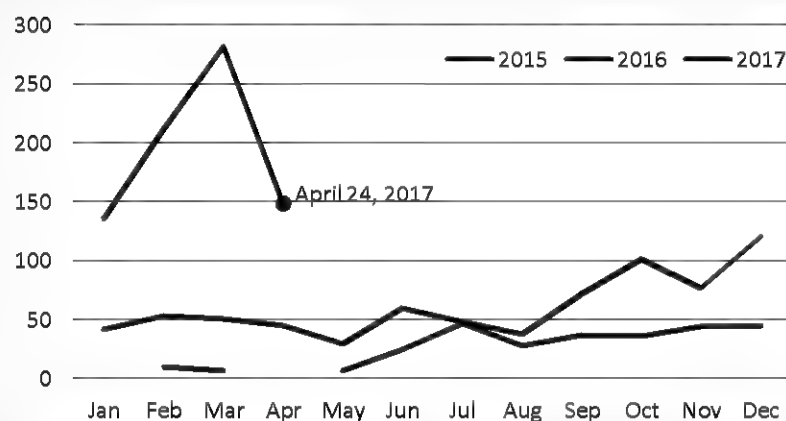
Data as of April 25, 2017

Safe Third Country Agreement – Refusals (MBR)

Analysis

- Under the Safe Third Country Agreement (STCA) between Canada and the U.S., claimants are required to request protection in the first safe country they arrive in, unless they qualify for an exception to the agreement.
- These claims can be found ineligible at the port of entry (POE), or after referral to the Immigration and Refugee Board.
- From January 1, 2017 to April 24, 2017 there have been 779 asylum claims deemed ineligible under the STCA. This represents a 419% increase when compared to the same reporting period last year. This increase is a recent trend as these refusals began to increase in October 2016.
- All POEs are issuing greater STCA refusals. Most notably, Lacolle with a 539% increase, followed by Rainbow Bridge with a 329% increase when compared to January 1, 2016 to April 24, 2016 STCA refusals.

STCA Refused Claims: Monthly Breakdown

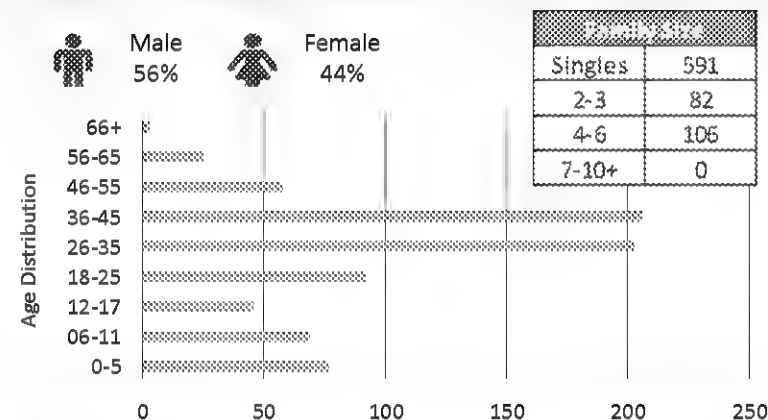


*Note: There were no STCA refusals in January 2015 and April 2015

Top 10 Citizenships for STCA Refusals

Citizenships	2017-01-01 to 2017-04-24	
	Rank	#
Haiti	1	182
Nigeria	2	60
Burundi	3	43
Colombia	4	37
Honduras	5	36
Congo	6	35
Syria	7	33
El Salvador	8	26
Pakistan	9	23
Sudan	10	17
Other	N/A	282

Profile of STCA Refused Claims (since January 1, 2017)



Top 10 POEs for STCA Refusals

Port of Entry	2017-01-01 to 2017-04-24	
	Rank	#
Saint-Bernard-De-Lacolle	1	294
Niagara Falls Rainbow Brdg	2	120
Saint-Armand	3	91
Fort Erie Refugee Proc Ctr	4	84
Fort Erie Peace Brdg	5	49
Windsor Inter Tunnel	6	33
Windsor Ambassador Brdg	7	24
Emerson	8	17
Niagara Falls QL Brdg	9	14
Stanstead	10	11
Other	N/A	42

Note: IRCC cannot currently report on STCA exemptions and reasons due to data integrity concerns.

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Monitoring of Asylum Claims – Preliminary Data

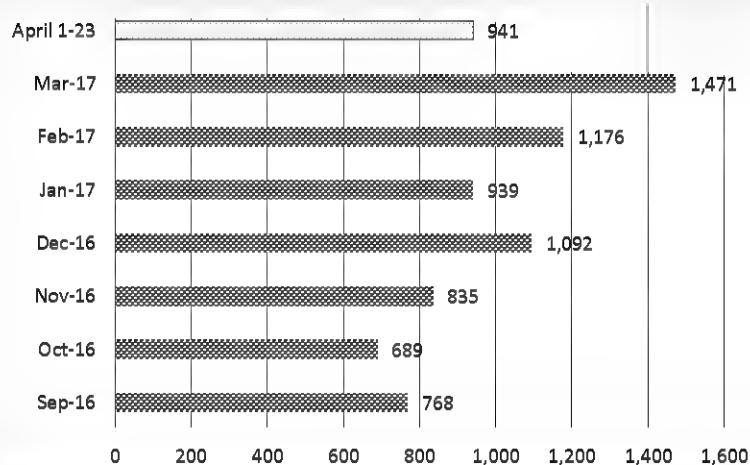
Data as of April 24, 2017

Asylum Snapshot – US - Canada Land Borders

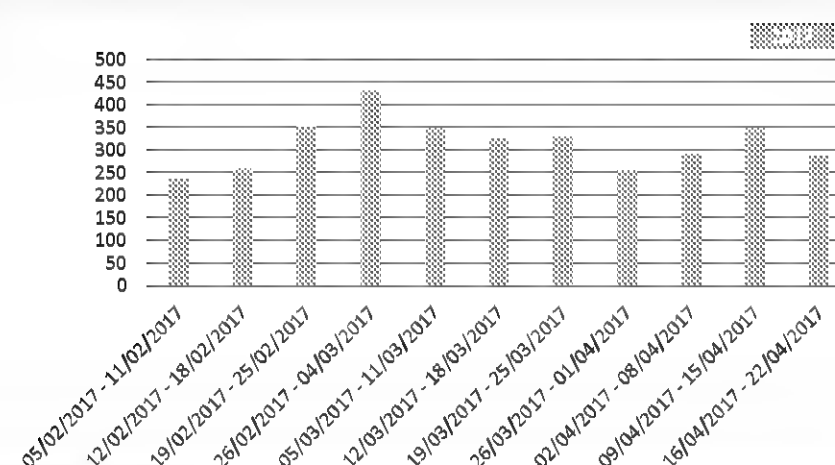
Analysis

- Claims for those being intercepted and returned to the land border are sometimes processed at the land border instead of inland.
- Updates to the system have been implemented, which allow officers to identify in the system claims from individuals who entered Canada between the ports of entry.
- The highest peak for land border claims over the last ten years was observed in 2008 with 10,806 claims.

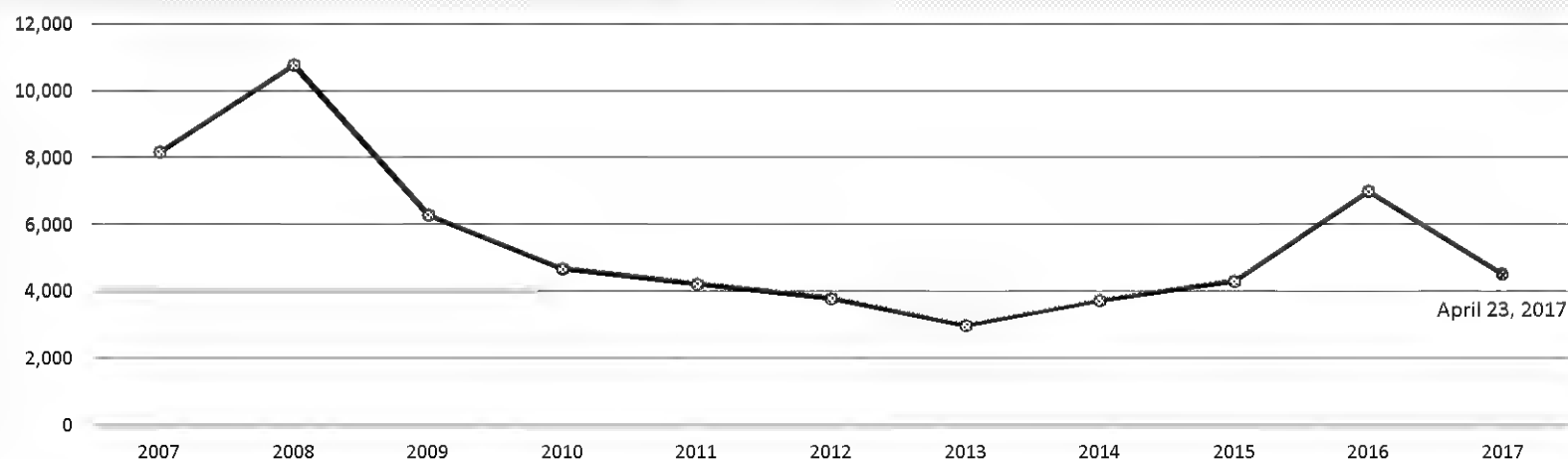
Claims Received at Land Border - Monthly



Claims Received at Land Border - Weekly



Land Border Claims Intake



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SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS – ASYLUM SEEKERS FOR DISCUSSION WITH MINISTER IMMIGRATION REFUGEES AND CITIZENSHIP CANADA - 8 MAY 2017

Subject 1 – Status of Asylum Seekers Arrivals

- To date, intelligence analysis indicates that asylum seekers are arriving based upon both push and pull factors. Analysis indicates that the trend of increased asylum seekers at land border will continue.
- While the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) have shared responsibility for refugee processing (CBSA processing 40% and IRCC 60%), currently the CBSA has been processing 55% of claimants. Rebalancing is necessary.
- The capacity of both the CBSA to continue to process asylum seekers, in Lacolle, Quebec, and Southern Ontario is unsustainable. The risk is increasing of a visible impact on the travelling public and commercial enterprises will occur, as well as the potential for a highly visible gap in humanitarian support. A more robust interdepartmental solution is required in the near-term.

Subject 2 - Departmental Roles and Responsibilities and Actions

- While an operational contingency framework is in place, with the arrival of peak travel season, there is a need to re-examine departmental responsibilities and recalibrate. The CBSA's capacity to process ongoing increases in asylum seekers will be reduced in order to meet other urgent mandate requirements in both the traveller and commercial domains. As such, there is a need to proceed with a Tier 3 Joint Processing Centre (JPC) in support of Lacolle.
- The distinction in core responsibilities means that IRCC has expertise in processing inland refugee claims with a greater level of efficiency. As

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well, IRCC has established relationships with the provinces/territories and non-governmental organizations which will also be essential to success.

- Processing of refugee claims at a JPC would be a natural extension of the existing work performed by inland IRCC refugee processing staff, whereas a significant amount of training would be required by CBSA to properly outfit a JPC with such staff.
- To present a refugee processing perspective rather than a refugee “camp” perspective, IRCC should take a lead role in the establishment and operation of Tier 3 processing centres with support from the CBSA.

Subject 3 – Policy Way Ahead

- Policy Options continue to be developed around the theme of maintaining border integrity. IRCC plays a crucial role in the policy conversation given that the *Immigration and Refugee Protection Act* provides authority for such activities as designating mass arrivals, administering detention situations and review processes, engaging the Immigration Refugee Board, processing timelines and requirements. As well, the Safe Third Country Agreement is managed by IRCC.

Subject 4 – US Engagement – Creating a Strategic Dialogue

- Canadian officials have successfully engaged American officials at multiple levels to understand the current irregular migration trend, take coordinated action and to identify opportunities for future collaboration. Public Safety Canada, supported by Portfolio members and Global Affairs Canada, is currently planning and further coordinating engagement at the strategic level to foster greater ongoing collaboration.
- Examples of GC engagement and coordination with the United States (US) include: CBSA and Royal Canadian Mounted Police sharing of information and intelligence within existing agreements and Integrated Border Enforcement Teams to manage this migrant movement supported by a Joint Intelligence Working Group which includes input by US partners; a Canada-US Visa Policy Working Group led by IRCC to identify systemic issues in respective visa programs that may be fostering irregular migration, and includes CBSA, Immigration and Customs

Canada

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Enforcement, Customs and Border Protection as required; the conduct of a Binational Symposium on Border Integrity leading to the development of a binational action plan; and the visit by political and senior CBSA and IRCC officials to Washington and into Canada.

Hebert, Stephanie

From: Lefebvre, Paulette
Sent: May 5, 2017 12:52 PM
To: Carroll, Kathy; Modler, Greg; Giles, Joanne; Wiens, Elizabeth
Subject: FW: Asylum Seeker Updates
Attachments: TPs Min PS Asylum Seeker Mtg Min IRCC 8 May.doc; Asylum Seeker Memo For Min PS 8 May.docx; Asylum Clmnt Op Resp Tier Slide Update 4 May.pptx

Importance: High

Not sure whether I sent this to you or not but this is the final (perhaps) briefing material for the Minister's meeting on Monday.

From: Hoag, Shawn
Sent: May 5, 2017 10:31 AM
To: Bindner, Melissa <Melissa.Bindner@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Cc: Cl  roux, Julie <Julie.Cleroux@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Alves, Jessica <Jessica.Alves@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Lefebvre, Paulette <Paulette.Lefebvre@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Porrior, Paul <Paul.Porrior@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Laframboise, Andr   <Andre.Laframboise@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>; Janes, Lisa <Lisa.Janes1@cra-arc.gc.ca>; Soper, Lesley L <LesleyL.Soper@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca>
Subject: Asylum Seeker Updates
Importance: High

Melissa,

Please find attached the updated to reflect President's requested amendments and Caroline's amendments to the Tier slide going into the PS deck. The updated deck will come through PS or Lesley Soper as she is the CBSA point for the deck.

Update costing will come later as Comptrollership is leading a costing review meeting at 1:00pm today.

TPs Min PS Asylum Seeker Mtg Min IRCC 8 May.doc

Asylum Seeker Memo For Min PS 8 May.docx (

Asylum Clmnt Op Resp Tier Slide Update 4 May.pptx

Thanks,

Shawn

Shawn Hoag
A/Regional Director General, Northern Ontario Region, Operations Branch
Canada Border Services Agency / Government of Canada
Shawn.hoag@cbsa-asfc.gc.ca / Tel: 613-991-0566 / TTY: 866-335-3237

Directeur g  n  ral r  gional p.i, R  gion du Nord de l'Ontario, Direction g  n  rale des op  rations
Agence des services frontaliers du Canada / Gouvernement du Canada
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SUGGESTED TALKING POINTS – ASYLUM SEEKERS FOR DISCUSSION WITH MINISTER IMMIGRATION REFUGEES AND CITIZENSHIP CANADA - 8 MAY 2017

Subject 1 – Status of Asylum Seekers Arrivals

- To date, intelligence analysis indicates that asylum seekers are arriving based upon both push and pull factors. Analysis indicates that the trend of increased asylum seekers at land border will continue.
- While the Canada Border Services Agency (CBSA) and Immigration, Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) have shared responsibility for refugee processing (CBSA processing 40% and IRCC 60%), currently the CBSA has been processing 55% of claimants.
- The capacity of both the CBSA to continue to process asylum seekers, in Lacolle, Quebec, and Southern Ontario Region (SOR) is unsustainable. This is particularly acute in SOR where claimant processing could cause major backups on bridges and have a significant impact on cross border commercial and trade activity that could exceed summer 2016 levels and likely approach the crisis situation of 2008. There will be a visible impact as well as the potential for a highly visible gap in asylum seeker humanitarian support. A more robust interdepartmental solution is required in the near-term.

Subject 2 - Departmental Roles and Responsibilities and Actions

- While an operational contingency framework is in place, with the arrival of peak travel season, there is a need to re-examine where the processing occurs. The CBSA's capacity to process ongoing increases in asylum seekers will be reduced in order to meet other urgent mandate requirements in both the traveller and commercial domains. As such, there is a need to proceed with a Tier 3 Joint Processing Centre (JPC) away from the port of entry (POE) to support the Lacolle, Quebec POE.

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- IRCC has core responsibilities in processing inland refugee claims. Processing of refugee claims at a JPC away from a POE would be a natural extension of the existing work performed by inland IRCC refugee processing staff. The fact remains that as refugee claimants, they are technically a business line of the IRCC.
- IRCC has established relationships with the provinces/territories and non-governmental organizations which will also be essential to success.
- To present a refugee processing perspective rather than a refugee “camp” or “mass arrival” perspective, prevent backups on IRCC should take a lead role in the establishment and operation of Tier 3 processing centres with support from Public Safety (PS) partners.
- IRCC leading high capacity JPCs away from POEs will also help to ensure that backups on bridges or at POEs and the resultant negative stakeholder (eg. Canada and US commercial and trade communities) and public opinion is not attributed to refugee claimants.

Subject 3 – Policy Way Ahead

- Policy options are underdevelopment with IRCC and PS partners focused on best approaches to maintaining border integrity in the face of increasing asylum seekers.
- IRCC and PS Partners have a crucial role to play in an operational approach that addresses the high need for public confidence in the security of the asylum system, while balancing the protection interests of those seeking to access asylum at our borders.

Subject 4 – US Engagement – Creating a Strategic Dialogue

- Canadian officials have successfully engaged American officials at multiple levels to understand the current irregular migration trend, to take coordinated action and to identify opportunities for future collaboration. PS Canada, supported by Portfolio members and Global Affairs Canada, is currently planning and further coordinating engagement at the strategic level to foster greater ongoing collaboration.

Canada

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- Examples of GC engagement and coordination with the United States (US) include:
 - CBSA and Royal Canadian Mounted Police sharing of information and intelligence within existing agreements and Integrated Border Enforcement Teams to manage this migrant movement. This is supported by a Joint Intelligence Working Group.
 - A Canada-US Visa Policy Working Group led by IRCC to identify systemic issues in respective visa programs that may be fostering irregular migration.
 - A Binational Symposium on Border Integrity hosted by the RCMP developed a binational action plan.
 - Recent visits by political and senior CBSA and IRCC officials to Washington and their US counterparts to Canada to continue to raise the visibility and awareness on the topic.



Canada Border
Services Agency

Agence des services
frontaliers du Canada

ADVICE TO THE MINISTER

For information

UPDATE ON ENHANCING BORDER INTEGRITY AND ADDRESSING IRREGULAR MIGRATION - DISCUSSION WITH MINISTER IMMIGRATION REFUGEES AND CITIZENSHIP CANADA - 8 MAY 2017

For the Minister

PURPOSE

To update the current situation, key issues and next steps in maintaining border integrity and addressing land border irregular migration, in preparation for your discussion with the Minister Immigration Refugees and Citizenship Canada (IRCC) and senior officials from IRCC, the Canada Border Service Agency (CBSA) and the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP).

ISSUE

The substantial increase in land border asylum seekers continues to put significant stress on the refugee processing system including the RCMP's capacity to intercept claimants and the CBSA's capacity to process claimants. The interception of asylum seekers has also had significant media attention specifically in Lacolle, Quebec, and Emerson, Manitoba.

BACKGROUND

During the period of January to May 2017, the CBSA and RCMP have been managing a significant increase in land border asylum seekers with the RCMP intercepting over 2750 asylum seekers and the CBSA processing over 4,800 claimants. For the CBSA, this is a 325% increase from 2016 and a 135% increase from the last asylum seeker surge in 2008. Both organizations have implemented expedient measures to respond. Interdepartmental contingency planning has developed a tiered response model, outlined in Attachment 1, to address this highly dynamic situation. IRCC has been providing "as required" processing support in Montreal and Winnipeg.

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IRCC has been providing adhoc updates to provincial officials on a bi-weekly basis. The United Nations High Commission for Refugees (UNHCR) has visited Lacolle, Quebec, Emerson, Manitoba and ports of entry (POEs) in Southern Ontario Region (SOR). The UNHCR coordinated humanitarian support by the Canadian Red Cross at Lacolle for a 3-week period in March – April 2017.

STATUS

Current Trends

Current intelligence forecasts the arrival of approximately 40,000 refugees during Fiscal Year 2017/18, which is well above the trend of the past 8 years (Attachment 2 and 3) and the funded level of 22,500 domestic refugee arrivals.

Operational Response

A 4 Tier framework of escalating response is currently guiding federal government actions. Presently Pacific, Prairie, NOR, Greater Toronto and Atlantic Regions are at the upper end of Tier 1. Lacolle and SOR are operating at the upper end of Tier 2 capacity and will likely require escalation to Tier 3 – Joint Processing Centres (JPC) away from POEs as early as June - July 2017. Detailed Tier 3 planning is underway to acquire infrastructure footprints and provision fit-up to establish an initial operating capacity concurrent to the arrival of the border summer peak travel season. Public Safety Canada (PSC) is coordinating the development of an outline approach for Tier 4 should a regional or national crisis emerge requiring a whole of government response.

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JPCs will also allow the largely administrative function of refugee processing to be conducted by administrative and clerical staff in a low risk environment.

Roles and Responsibilities

A key aspect of sustaining Tier 2 and implementing Tier 3 - JPC is ensuring clarity regarding the roles and responsibilities of the core departments. While IRCC has policy responsibility for the in-Canada asylum system; the CBSA, in addition to its other border service responsibilities, has policy responsibility for POE admissibility and immigration enforcement activities such as investigations, hearings and removals. The distinction in core responsibilities means that IRCC has a developed expertise and efficiency in dealing with inland refugee claims. Conversely, processing refugee claims at POEs is a time-consuming process, frequently interrupted by other POE events. Historically, in certain circumstances, asylum seekers intercepted by law enforcement between the ports, have been processed at CBSA POE's

While IRPA indicates that overall processing of refugees is a shared responsibility, IRCC interprets this to mean all claims arriving at POEs should be processed at POEs or CBSA inland offices.

Should a JPC be established, the expertise and efficiency of IRCC at processing refugee claims would be crucial in ensuring the efficient processing of the movement as it is a natural extension of current work.

This is further underscored by the fact that the preliminary risk assessment element of the interception will have already been completed by CBSA/RCMP/local Police and claimants exhibiting risk will be processed by the CBSA.

It will be important to reach a timely agreement to proceed with this so that space can be reserved, capacity established before numbers increase beyond current capacity levels.

Policy Options

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A range of policy options focused on maintaining border integrity are being developed.

Longer term policy options to address gaps in the domestic asylum system and the impacts on border integrity are being developed interdepartmentally.

Engagement

Within the GC there has been active interdepartmental contingency and response planning that has resulted in shared triaging and processing of claimants by the RCMP, the CBSA and IRCC. Through the collaborative efforts of the CBSA, the RCMP, IRCC, PSC, Global Affairs Canada (GAC), Public Health Agency of Canada (PHAC), Department of National Defence (DND), Canada Coast Guard and Privy Council Office

Canadian officials have been working closely with US officials at multiple levels to understand the current irregular migration trend, take coordinated action and to identify opportunities for future collaboration. (

and the visit by political and senior CBSA and IRCC officials to Washington and into Canada. Public Safety Canada, supported by Portfolio members and GAC, is currently planning and further coordinating engagement at the strategic level to foster greater ongoing collaboration.

Provinces, territories and Non-Government Organizations will be playing a prominent role in any Tier 3 and Tier 4 response and, thus, will be integrated into planning. As IRCC has

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established relationships with these organizations through its settlement program, they are best positioned to manage this engagement.

Resource Impacts

The current tool that is relied on to allocate funds as it pertains to refugee claims primarily in Canada is the cost-per-claimant model that is shared by IRCC and CBSA (used to generate costs for Memorandums to Cabinet such as immigration-levels and Refugee Reform 3).

COMMUNICATIONS CONSIDERATIONS

There is currently an interdepartmental communications strategy in place that includes responding to asylum seeker events, responding to media enquiries, sharing of asylum seeker data with the public on a monthly basis and creating opportunities to educate the public and media on the Canadian Refugee Processing System and how the GC is responding to the increase in asylum seekers.

A communications strategy is being developed to enable the GC to present a positive message and manage the response to a crisis or major unforecast event related to asylum seekers. Going forward, the GC lead for communications regarding irregular migration requires clarification.

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NEXT STEPS

Meet with the Minister of IRCC to discuss this issue, seek guidance and agree on next steps.

John Ossowski
President

ATTACHMENT(S)

1. **Asylum Claimants Influx Interdepartmental Response Planning – Update to the Minister of Public Safety April 24, 2017**
2. **US-Canada Dashboard – Asylum Claims and Interceptions April 24, 2017**
3. **Intelligence Snapshot – Between The Ports April 28, 2017**

c.c.: Mr. Malcolm Brown, Deputy Minister Public Safety Canada
Mr. Bob Paulson, Commissioner, RCMP
Ms. Marta Morgan, Deputy Minister, IRCC